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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/050,201	01/16/2002	Michael William Murphy	9600010.APP	6294

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EXAMINER
CHUONG, TRUC T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2179	

DATE MAILED: 01/26/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/050,201	MURPHY, MICHAEL WILLIAM
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Truc T. Chuong	2179

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *04 October 2005*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are pending in the application.

   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *16 January 2002* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

   Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

   a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

   1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

   2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

   3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *Nov. 7&11, 2005*.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This communication is responsive to RCE, filed 10/04/05.

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 9 are independent claims. In

this communication, claims 1, 9, and 13 are amended. This is made non-final.

Claim Objections

1.   Claim 17 is objected to because of the following informalities: it should be a period (".")

at the end of the claim.   Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2.   The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the
> subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3.   Claims 8 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite

for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant

regards as the invention.

The term "preferably" in claims 1 and 18 is a relative term which renders the claim

indefinite. The term "preferably" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a

standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be

reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention. An appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5.   Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Grover et al.

(U.S. Patent No. 5,818,437).

As to claim 1, Grover teaches a method of character-by-character data entry that is

displayed on a screen through sequential selection of characters of a collection of characters by a

human user comprising:

providing a plurality of display windows on the display (e.g., fig. 1 shows that there are

more than two windows on the display screen 100 such as window 101, 102, 103, 107, etc.);

defining character groups of the collection of characters, each character group to be

displayed in a display window on a time variable basis (the keystroke will make changes to

different set of possible words or characters, e.g., col. 4 lines 39-45 and figs. 1, 7a-j);

defining character sets of the collection of characters, each character set including

characters from each group for concurrently display (window 107 is listed the various

interpretation or options to the user, e.g., col. 4 lines 35-60, and fig. 1);

scrolling (the user can move the cursor or highlight bar to the desired word, e.g., col. 1

lines 55-58, col. 4 lines 40-45, and figs. 1, 7a-j) the characters of each character group in each

respective display window so as to successively display the characters of each character group

for a display time to the user for selection, whereby a character set is simultaneously displayed to

the user in the respective plurality of display windows (e.g., col. 1 lines 55-58, col. 4 lines 40-45, and figs. 1, 7a-j);

detecting the selection by the user of a character displayed in one of the display windows during the display time (207/208 is selected by the user, e.g., fig. 1); and

entering the detected character, whereby a user may select characters as they are displayed in the display windows and enter data (e.g., figs. 1, 7a-j).

As to claim 2, Grover teaches wherein characters comprise word processing alphanumeric characters and punctuation marks enabling data entry of human language text and mathematical expressions (e.g., 1, 7a-j, and col. 4 lines 46-64).

As to claim 3, Grover teaches wherein step of displaying the characters of each character group in each respective display window comprises simultaneously displaying a character capable of being selected by the user, a previously displayed character of the character group, and the next to be displayed character of the character group (the user can move the cursor or highlight bar to the desired word, or the next possible word such as "add" or "166", e.g., col. 1 lines 55-58, col. 4 lines 40-45, and figs. 1, 7a-j).

As to claim 4, Grover teaches wherein the user defines the number of the display windows in the step of defining a plurality of display windows (e.g., figs. 1, 7a-j).

As to claim 5, Grover teaches wherein the user defines the character group in the step of defining character groups (e.g., col. 1 lines 55-58, col. 4 lines 40-45, and figs. 1, 7a-j).

As to claim 6, Grover teaches the method further comprising the step of defining a character display time for display of each character of each character group in each display window (timed delay, e.g., col. 6 lines 43-48).

As to claim 7, Grover teaches wherein the user defines the character display time in the step of defining the character display rate and display time (timed delay, e.g., col. 6 lines 43-48, and col. 7 lines 40-44).

As to claim 8, Grover teaches wherein the character groups preferably comprise no more than three characters (e.g., figs. 1, 7a-j).

As to claims 9-10, they are the equivalent system claims of method claims 1 and 3 respectively and rejected under a similar rationale.

As to claim 11, Grover teaches wherein the scrolling means comprises:

means for displaying a character of the character set in each display window or a display time (timed delay, e.g., col. 6 lines 43-48, and col. 7 lines 40-44);

means for timing out the display time (timed delay, e.g., col. 6 lines 43-48, and col. 7 lines 40-44); and

means for replacing the character displayed in the display window with the next character in the predetermined order of the characters or each character group upon expiration of the display time (Grover inherently shows this feature because the Grover's system uses timed delay to determine the interacting status of the user; therefore, the most selected characters/words will be cancelled and fallen back to the previous one or can be skipped to the next step).

As to claim 12, Grover teaches the system further comprising means operable by the user to halt the timing out of the display time and freeze the character display in a display window (timed delay, e.g., col. 6 lines 43-48, and col. 7 lines 40-44).

As to claim 13, Grover teaches the system of Claim 9, wherein the scrolling means comprises means operable by the user for scrolling a character of each character group into the

display window for the character group (the user can move the cursor or highlight bar to the desired word, e.g., col. 1 lines 55-58, col. 4 lines 40-45, and figs. 1, 7a-j).

As to claim 14, Grover teaches the character displaying means for displaying the characters of each character group in each respective display window comprises means for simultaneously displaying a character capable of being selected by the user, a previously displayed character of the character group, and the next to be displayed character of the character group (the user can move the cursor or highlight bar to the desired word, or the next possible word such as "add" or "166", e.g., col. 1 lines 55-58, col. 4 lines 40-45, and figs. 1, 7a-j).

As to claims 15-18, they are the equivalent system claims of method claims 4-6, and 8 respectively and are rejected under a similar rationale.

As to claims 19-20, Grover teaches the system further comprising an advance key usable to advance a character into a character display window in first direction for selection and a back-up key to return a character into a character display window that has advanced in the first direction past the display window to define the character set of each character group (the user can switch back and forth between menus, e.g., col. 5 lines 35-40, and figs. 1, 7a-j).

Response to Arguments

6.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 filed October 04, 2005 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

7.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's

disclosure.

Nishino et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,615,378) teach character group, string group,

retrieving dictionary, possible words, and character sets definition (cols. 2-11 and figs. 1-

16).

Ho et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,307,541) teach grouping characters, scrolling to make

section, and retrieving possible words (cols. 2-17 and figs. 1-2).

8.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Truc T. Chuong whose telephone number is 571-272-4134. The

examiner can normally be reached on M-Th and alternate Fridays 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Weilun Lo can be reached on (571) 272-4847. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Truc T. Chuong

01/21/06

WEILUN LO
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER